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Dated: October 10, 2006

Signature:

*James J. Napoli*  
(James J. Napoli)

Docket No.: 29827/41149  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Dieter Hermeling et al.

Application No.: 10/532,279

Confirmation No.: 8528

Filed: April 21, 2005

Art Unit: 1771

For: Ultra-Thin Materials Made from Fibre and  
Superabsorbent

Examiner: Arden B. Sperty

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In the Office Action dated September 6, 2006 (Paper No. 20060828), applicants are required to elect one of the following groups of claims:

Group (I), claims 1-18, directed to a fibrous material;

Group (II), claim 21, directed to a process of making a fibrous material; or

Group (III), claims 22-24, directed to a method of absorbing.

Applicants hereby elect the claims of examiner's Group I, namely, claims 1 through 18, inclusive, with traverse, for examination on the merits at this time.

It is submitted, however, that all claims 1 through 18 and 21 through 24, should be examined at this time. According to PCT Rule 13, claims of different categories with common special technical features do *not* lack unity.